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§ 3001. Congressional statement of purpose

It is the purpose of this chapter to promote, through appropriate means and on an economically sustainable basis, the development and expansion of direct marketing of agricultural commodities from farmers to consumers. To accomplish this objective, the Secretary of Agriculture (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") shall initiate and coordinate a program designed to facilitate direct marketing from farmers to consumers for the mutual benefit of consumers and farmers.

(Pub. L. 94-463, § 2, Oct. 8, 1976, 90 Stat. 1982.)

SHORT TITLE

Section 1 of Pub. L. 94-463 provided: "That this Act [enacting this chapter and provisions set out as a note under section 5145 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare] may be cited as the 'Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act of 1976'."

§ 3002. Definitions

For purposes of this chapter, the term "direct marketing from farmers to consumers" shall mean the marketing of agricultural commodities at any marketplace (including, but not limited to, roadside stands, city markets, and vehicles used for house-to-house marketing of agricultural commodities) established and maintained for the purpose of enabling farmers to sell (either individually or through a farmers' organization directly representing the farmers who produced the commodities being sold) their agricultural commodities directly to individual consumers, or organizations representing consumers, in a manner calculated to lower the cost and increase the quality of food to such consumers while providing increased financial returns to the farmers.

(Pub. L. 94-463, § 3, Oct. 8, 1976, 90 Stat. 1982.)

§ 3003. Survey

The Secretary shall provide, through the Economic Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, or whatever agency or agencies the Secretary considers appropriate, an annual survey of existing methods of direct marketing from farmers to consumers in each State.

(Pub. L. 94-463, § 4, Oct. 8, 1976, 90 Stat. 1982; Pub. L. 107-171, title X, § 10605(b)(1), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 513.)

AMENDMENTS

2002—Pub. L. 107-171 substituted "an annual survey" for "a continuing survey" and struck out at end "The initial survey, which shall be completed no later than one year following October 8, 1976, shall include the number of types of such marketing methods in existence, the volume of business conducted through each such marketing method, and the impact of such marketing methods upon financial returns to farmers (including their impact upon improving the economic viability of small farmers) and food quality and costs to consumers."

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 3006 of this title.

§ 3004. Direct marketing assistance within the States**(a) In general**

In order to promote the establishment and operation of direct marketing from farmers to consumers, the Secretary shall provide that funds appropriated to carry out this section be utilized by State departments of agriculture and the Secretary for the purpose of conducting or facilitating activities which will initiate, encourage, develop, or coordinate methods of direct marketing from farmers to consumers within or among the States. Such funds shall be allocated to a State on the basis of the feasibility of direct marketing from farmers to consumers within that State as compared to other States and shall be allocated within a State to the State department of agriculture and to the Secretary on the basis of the types of activities which are needed in the State, as determined by the Secretary. The activities shall include, but shall not be limited to—

(1) sponsoring conferences which are designed to facilitate the sharing of information (among farm producers, consumers, and other interested persons or groups) concerning the establishment and operation of direct marketing from farmers to consumers;

(2) compiling laws and regulations relevant to the conduct of the various methods of such direct marketing within the State, formulating drafts and enabling legislation needed to facilitate such direct marketing, determining feasible locations for additional facilities for such direct marketing, and preparing and disseminating practical information on the establishment and operation of such direct marketing; and

(3) providing technical assistance for the purpose of aiding interested individuals or groups in the establishment of arrangements for direct marketing from farmers to consumers.

(b) Development of farmers' markets

The Secretary shall—

(1) work with the Governor of a State, and a State agency designated by the Governor, to develop programs to train managers of farmers' markets;

(2) develop opportunities to share information among managers of farmers' markets;

(3) establish a program to train cooperative extension service employees in the development of direct marketing techniques; and

(4) work with producers to develop farmers' markets.

(c) Consideration of consumer preferences

In the implementation of this section, the Secretary shall take into account consumer preferences and needs which may bear upon the establishment and operation of arrangements for direct marketing from farmers to consumers.

(Pub. L. 94-463, § 5, Oct. 8, 1976, 90 Stat. 1982; Pub. L. 107-171, title X, § 10605(b)(2), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 513.)

AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107-171, §10605(b)(2)(A), substituted “Secretary for the purpose” for “Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose”, “Secretary on the basis” for “Extension Service on the basis”, and “, as determined by the Secretary” for “and on the basis of which of these two agencies, or combination thereof, can best perform these activities”.

Subsecs. (b), (c). Pub. L. 107-171, §10605(b)(2)(B), (C), added subsec. (b) and redesignated former subsec. (b) as (c).

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 3006 of this title.

§ 3005. Farmers’ Market Promotion Program**(a) Establishment**

The Secretary shall carry out a program, to be known as the “Farmers’ Market Promotion Program” (referred to in this section as the “Program”), to make grants to eligible entities for projects to establish, expand, and promote farmers’ markets.

(b) Program purposes**(1) In general**

The purposes of the Program are—

(A) to increase domestic consumption of agricultural commodities by improving and expanding, or assisting in the improvement and expansion of, domestic farmers’ markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, and other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities; and

(B) to develop, or aid in the development of, new farmers’ markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, and other direct producer-to-consumer infrastructure.

(2) Limitations

An eligible entity may not use a grant or other assistance provided under the Program for the purchase, construction, or rehabilitation of a building or structure.

(c) Eligible entities

An entity shall be eligible to receive a grant under the Program if the entity is—

- (1) an agricultural cooperative;
- (2) a local government;
- (3) a nonprofit corporation;
- (4) a public benefit corporation;
- (5) an economic development corporation;
- (6) a regional farmers’ market authority; or
- (7) such other entity as the Secretary may designate.

(d) Criteria and guidelines

The Secretary shall establish criteria and guidelines for the submission, evaluation, and funding of proposed projects under the Program.

(e) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007.

(Pub. L. 94-463, §6, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title X, §10605(a), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 513.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3005, Pub. L. 94-463, §6, Oct. 8, 1976, 90 Stat. 1983; Pub. L. 103-437, §4(a)(8), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat.

4582, related to review of activities by Secretary and annual report to Congress, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-362, title I, §101(d)(1), Nov. 10, 1998, 112 Stat. 3281.

§ 3006. Authorization of appropriations

(a) For purposes of carrying out section 3003 of this title, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary.

(b) For purposes of carrying out the provisions of section 3004 of this title, there is authorized to be appropriated \$1,500,000 for each of the fiscal years ending September 30, 1977, and September 30, 1978.

(Pub. L. 94-463, §7, Oct. 8, 1976, 90 Stat. 1983; Pub. L. 105-362, title I, §101(d)(2), Nov. 10, 1998, 112 Stat. 3281.)

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-362 substituted “section 3003” for “the provisions of sections 3003 and 3005”.

§ 3007. Seniors farmers’ market nutrition program**(a) Establishment**

The Secretary of Agriculture shall use \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, and \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007, of the funds available to the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out and expand a seniors farmers’ market nutrition program.

(b) Program purposes

The purposes of the seniors farmers’ market nutrition program are—

(1) to provide resources in the form of fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs from farmers’ markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs to low-income seniors;

(2) to increase the domestic consumption of agricultural commodities by expanding or aiding in the expansion of domestic farmers’ markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs; and

(3) to develop or aid in the development of new and additional farmers’ markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs.

(c) Regulations

The Secretary may issue such regulations as the Secretary considers necessary to carry out the seniors farmers’ market nutrition program.

(Pub. L. 107-171, title IV, §4402, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 334.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Food Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2002 and also as part of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and not as part of the Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act of 1976 which comprises this chapter.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 2002, except as otherwise provided, see section 4405 of Pub. L. 107-171, set out as a note under section 1161 of Title 2, The Congress.